

## ABSTRACT

Method and apparatus for enhancing the performance of a network. The performance enhancing functions described are applicable to a wide variety of communication links, including both slow and fast links, high latency links, and links with low and high error rates. The performance enhancing functions, which may be implemented either singly or in combination, include selective spoofing which allows flexible configuration of which connections should be spoofed, spoofing of the conventional TCP three-way handshake, local data acknowledgement, which allows data windows to increase at local speeds, multiplexing multiple connections across a single connection, data compression/encryption, prioritization, and path selection. The performance enhancing features described are particularly useful for links with high latency and/or high bit error rates.

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